

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 682

By Cohen

A RESOLUTION to commend Thomas E. Boggs for being named one of ten 2002 Jefferson Award winners in Memphis.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those estimable citizens of this state who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Thomas E. Boggs is one such person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all his chosen endeavors; he was recently named one of ten Jefferson Award winners in Memphis for the year 2002; and

WHEREAS, the American Institute for Public Service, established in 1972 by Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis, Senator Robert Taft, Jr. and Sam Beard, created the Jefferson Awards as a mechanism for national recognition for outstanding community and public service; and

WHEREAS, awards are presented at the national level by the American Institute for Public Service, and at the local level by 89 media sponsors in 35 states; this year *The Commercial Appeal* named a distinguished panel of ten judges to winnow 105 Memphis area nominees down to ten local winners; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boggs is a highly respected member of the Memphis community; he has been an owner and partner in many restaurant ventures in Memphis over the last 25 or more years and has been President of the Memphis Restaurant Association; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Boggs began his promising career in food service at T.G.I. Friday's and later became a bartender and partner at Huey's; in each position, he has distinguished himself as an exceptional asset to his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boggs remembered his experience as a worker after he became President of the Memphis Restaurant Association and worked and advocated for those employed in the food service and hospitality industries; in naming him to receive a Jefferson Award, the judges panel cited his volunteer efforts to get all under-insured and uninsured workers in the food service industry health care through the Church Health Center; and

WHEREAS, Thomas Boggs works quietly and unobtrusively as an unpaid advisor to many interested in the restaurant business, acts as a one-man employment agency to those in need of work, and helps pay debts and serves as a mediator when needed; he spends many hours serving as a volunteer for the Memphis Food Bank and is a past President of the Food Bank Advisory Board; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boggs' leadership abilities are reflected in his having been named as President of the 2002 Memphis in May Festival, his service on the Board of Directors of the Memphis Convention and Visitors Bureau, of which he is a past President, and his participation in establishing the Zoo Rendezvous while a member of the Memphis Zoo Board; he was recently honored with the Newt Hardin Award for outstanding service to the restaurant industry; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boggs' remarkable success as a businessman, volunteer and civic leader is directly attributable to his reliance on the time-honored values of hard work and common sense and his uncommon ability to work well with people from all walks of life; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boggs is an extremely giving person who often reaches out with compassion to people whom life has treated unkindly, including helping to support a longtime

friend and employee dying of AIDS; he epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor in the Memphis community and Shelby County; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Boggs is wholly committed to the noble precepts of public service that have earned Tennessee recognition as the "Volunteer State," and he should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SECOND GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, That we hereby commend Thomas E. Boggs for his honorable and astute service to the good people of Memphis and Shelby County and congratulate him upon being named one of ten 2002 Jefferson Award winners.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That we offer him our best wishes for every success and satisfaction in all his future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.